



"FARM FAIR" DESCRIPTION and MISSION STATEMENT

The ***"Farm Fair" 2011*** is a continuing education program for fourth grade elementary schools students conducted as an all-day, 300+ students and teachers each day for three (3) days, on-ranch site location offering students, teachers and school administrators lessons about agriculture production, economics, soil science, animal science, environment management and exposure to careers in agriculture related fields.

"Farm Fair" is conducted annually by the Gallatin Valley Agriculture Committee, made up of volunteers representing agri-business, natural resources conservation, and education in Gallatin County. ***"Farm Fair"*** is administered entirely by volunteers, including ranch employees.

Gallatin County has over nine hundred (900) fourth grade students in the public school system, with additional fourth grade students being home schooled and in several private schools. ***"Farm Fair"*** has become an annual program, based on the responses received from educators and students that viewed and participated in ***"Farm Fair" 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010.***

Professional people, in each field represented, staff fifteen-minute stations. Sixteen (16) Group Leaders are assigned to individual groups of 20+/- students, and rotate their assigned students through each of the stations throughout the day. Curriculum stations are:

- water cycle
- bees/pollination
- weeds identification
- irrigation/soil conservation
- forestry
- beef cattle
- dairy & milking cow
- dairy goats/cheese
- sheep (ewe to you)
- Gallatin Valley crops
- safety
- making "tin can" ice cream
- pleasure horses
- pigs
- potatoes
- 4-H
- story of wheat (field to table)
- draft horses

Demonstrations include wagon rides into an adjoining field explaining soil conservation, crop rotation and a working irrigation system. A free lunch is provided each day. Curriculum is reviewed annually to offer the most valuable education possible.

Pre-event and post-event classroom material is provided each attending student and teacher.

An on-site First Aid station, staffed by paramedics, is provided by Central Valley Fire Department. Gallatin Sheriff Posse provides security all day, each day, and all night between the three (3) days.

The Mission of the Gallatin Valley Agriculture Committee's ***"Farm Fair"*** is to provide a rural ranch atmosphere where students and teachers have the opportunity to see and touch where our basic food supply originates, how it is prepared for processing for human consumption, and to demonstrate agriculture's commitment to protecting the natural resources on which it depends.

Our premier ***“Farm Fair” 2005***, a one-day event, had 369 fourth grade students attending from the Three Forks, Manhattan, Belgrade, Bozeman, and Amsterdam public schools. ***“Farm Fair” 2006***’s two-day attendance had 600+ fourth grade students from the Three Forks, Manhattan, Belgrade, Bozeman, Amsterdam, Cottonwood, Springhill, Pass Creek, Anderson, Gallatin Gateway, and Malmborg public schools. ***“Farm Fair” 2007***’s two-day attendance had 650+ fourth grade students from the Bozeman, Anderson, Manhattan, Amsterdam, Pass Creek, Belgrade, Cottonwood, Three Forks, Ophir, Gallatin Gateway, Malmborg, public schools and Heritage Christian School. ***“Farm Fair” 2008***’s two-day attendance had 644+ fourth grade students from the Bozeman, Belgrade, Manhattan, Three Forks, Pass Creek, Monforton, Anderson, Gallatin Gateway public schools and Heritage Christian School. ***“Farm Fair” 2009*** had 600+ fourth grade students from the Bozeman, Manhattan, Three Forks, Amsterdam, Monforton, Gallatin Gateway, Anderson, Malmborg public schools, Heritage Christian and Manhattan Christian private schools. ***“Farm Fair” 2010*** had 600+ fourth grade students from Bozeman, Manhattan, Three Forks, Amsterdam, Cottonwood, Pass Creek, Monforton, Anderson, LaMotte, Malmborg, and Ophir public schools, Heritage Christian and Manhattan Christian private schools. Due to increased requests from local schools, ***“Farm Fair” 2011*** is adding another day, allowing attendance up to nine hundred (900) students. Registration forms will be sent soon to each of the schools, for ***“Farm Fair” 2011***.

Testimony information is available from teachers and administrators that attended ***“Farm Fair” 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010*** upon request from us.